



# Minutes

July 13, 2015

Project	LTCP Post Construction Monitoring Plan	Ref. No.
Client:	Buffalo Sewer Authority	Client Ref. No.:
Venue/Date/Time:	NYSDEC – Region 9 06/25/2015; 10:00AM	From: Michael Quinn Tel: 716-856-2142
Attendees:	D. Comerford, O. McFoy, R. Nogle (BSA) J. Konsella, R. Locey, R. Smythe (NYSDEC) L. Gaugler, K. Mann (USEPA) via phone M. Quinn (GHD)	Absent:

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## Action

Generally the meeting followed the list of NYSDEC/USEPA comments and BSA responses as follows:

**Comment 1** – NYSDEC inquired about the status and schedule for the model recalibration and in particular questioned if the BSA could move the recalibration up a year and the rationale behind the three year tentative schedule. BSA responded that as indicated in their response, they are willing to begin the recalibration effort sooner and that the schedule was identified based on the maximum length of time that would be need to ensure proper storm/wet weather events for the calibration. NYSDEC inquired if the process could be completed more quickly. BSA/GHD indicated that the process could likely be completed quicker (approximately two years in duration) but it would be weather dependent. BSA also indicated that only the hydraulic model would be addressed. BSA committed to providing a revised schedule.

BSA to provide an updated schedule for recalibration.

In addition, the NYSDEC asked if the BSA was going to develop a work plan for the recalibration. BSA indicated that it was their intention to provide a document to the NYSDEC similar to what was developed during the model verification completed in 2008.

**Comment 2** – NYSDEC emphasized their desire that the BSA complete a basin-wide post construction monitoring program as soon as possible in an area where all work including GI has been completed. NYSDEC indicated that they want this information in general to start to determine the performance and effectiveness of GI. BSA indicated though not required by the AAO, they would attempt to identify a suitable area, but

BSA to attempt to identify an area for monitoring.

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<p>cautioned that it would be difficult to differentiate between the performance of the gray and the GI. Also GHD indicated that they have been trying to identify candidate sites with only gray and only GI for monitoring. However with regard to GI only sites, the issues have been the lack of a large enough acreage of GI versus the size of the total area, the density of the GI controls (and finding an area that is not impacted by upstream flows.</p>	<p>The NYSDEC also requested a detailed summary of all GI work which has been completed to date and the resulting expected reduction in flows.</p> <p>BSA to provide an updated list of GI projects and controlled acreage.</p>
<p><b>Comment 3</b> - NYSDEC reiterated their desire for the BSA to install permanent flow meters in the system. BSA indicated that this type of metering was not a requirement of the AAO, and noted that significant monitoring and metering efforts are needed to support PCM and model recalibration efforts.</p>	None
<p><b>Comment 4</b> – NYSDEC pressed the BSA to commit to a plan for public notice on overflow events through the SPRTK legislation. BSA indicated that they will comply with the SPRTK rules and regulations that are currently under public comment.</p>	None
<p><b>Additional Discussions</b> – NYSDEC discussed the ongoing issue of additional flows from outside municipalities and in particular Lackawanna, NY. They stressed that their concerns are that any additional dry weather flow will increase the base flow in the system and thus potentially increase CSO volumes. This discussion not only involved large flows from outside municipalities but also large commercial/industrial projects like River Bend as well as aggregations of smaller developments. BSA indicated that their project review process and development regulations are addressing the storm water components and that the dry weather flows should not be an issue. Further, the LTCP process will ensure that impacts are mitigated and that the BSA ordered provision govern. NYSDEC agreed, however they are concerned that as development occurs the impacts will happen well in advance of the BSA implementation of projects addressing wet weather concerns.</p>	None
<p>The NYSDEC expressed concerns regarding projects within the City of Buffalo which contribute “significant” levels of sanitary flows, though they could not to specify at what level flows become “significant”. The NYSDEC stated that in these cases he would like to see LTCP projects be moved up in order to mitigate these flows. However, the BSA countered that moving projects up is not fiscally possible and it may also be</p>	

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counter-productive as the moved up projects would not be constructed to accommodate the additional flows, while a project in accordance with the original timeline would have this opportunity. The BSA indicated that they cannot be held responsible for forecasting when and where development will occur within the City for the next 20 years. Additionally, while these additional flows may contribute to CSOs in a specific location, the BSA is still working to decrease CSOs overall through the LTCP and other projects within the City. In response NYSDEC agreed to the BSA putting into writing when approving these developments as “sanitary sewer extensions” the progress made to date toward the LTCP elsewhere in the system in conjunction with the work that was anticipated downstream from these projects as acceptable justification for approving these projects before the downstream management projects are completed.

BSA indicated that with regard to accepting additional flows from outside municipalities they believe that they are showing a commitment to the USEPA’s Integrated Planning approach. The USEPA indicated that it was their belief that Integrated Planning does not extend to adjoining municipalities but rather includes individual municipalities addressing competing interests between systems that they own (wastewater, storm water etc.).

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**Status of RTC projects** – NYSDEC requested an update on the ongoing RTC projects at Bird Avenue and Lang Street. BSA/GHD indicated that the contractor is in the process of making final connections for power and would be completing construction shortly with PCM to begin immediately. NYSDEC requested copies of as-built documents. BSA indicated that since the construction is not yet complete they do not anticipate having as-built drawings for some time. BSA suggested that they send copies of the design drawings instead. NYSDEC agreed. Subsequent to the meeting, BSA provided design drawings to the NYSDEC of the Bird Avenue and Lang Street RTC’s.

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BSA/GHD to provide design drawings.

**Lackawanna WWTP Elimination Study** – NYSDEC requested that the BSA finalize the report. BSA indicated that since the study was completed jointly with Erie County, they would reach out to Joe Fiegl to discuss the status.

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BSA to contact ECDEP

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☐ Attachments: \_\_\_\_\_

Prepared by: Michael Quinn, PE

Date issued: July 13, 2015

This confirms and records GHD's interpretation of the discussions which occurred and our understanding reached during this meeting. Unless notified in writing within 7 days of the date issued, we will assume that this recorded interpretation or description is complete and accurate.